

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A Device device for producing objects, for example lipsticks, that are molded from paste-like materials, while using an elastic mold part ~~[(28)]~~, into which the paste-like material is introduced by means of a filling device, is hardened, and from which the at least largely hardened object is removed by a removing device while said mold part is elastically stretched, comprising:

~~characterized in that~~ a dimensionally stable housing element ~~[(12)]~~ is provided for housing said mold part, wherein said housing element is held inside a stationary or moveable support of said device,

~~[-]~~ wherein said mold part ~~[(28)]~~ is placed in a housing space of said housing element at least during the filling and removal process, and

~~[-]~~ wherein said housing space can be enlarged by moving a moveable, dimensionally stable part ~~[(26)]~~ of the housing element ~~[(12)]~~ for removing the object.

2. (Currently Amended) The Device device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein during the filling process a thin fluid layer is placed between said mold part and said housing element, which is removable from said housing element for the removal process.

3. (Currently Amended) The Device device according to ~~claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said fluid layer has a thickness of at most 5 mm, preferably at most 2 mm.

4. (Currently Amended) The Device device according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a coat portion of said mold part ~~[(28)]~~ at least predominantly, preferably completely abuts in a planar fashion on said housing element ~~[(12)]~~.

5. (Currently Amended) The Device device according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said housing element ~~[(12)]~~ comprises a release element ~~[(22, 26)]~~ which is movable in relation to said mold in a planar fashion ~~[(28)]~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The Device device according to claim 5,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the path of said movable release element ~~[(22, 26)]~~ is in its end positions limited by block elements.
7. (Currently Amended) The Device device according to ~~claims 5 or 6~~ claim 5,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein between said mold part ~~[(28)]~~ and said movable release element ~~[(26)]~~ a closed gas, respectively fluid volume is arranged to form a thin fluid layer.
8. (Currently Amended) The Device device according to ~~any of~~ claims 5 to 7
claim 5,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein an actuation element is provided which, controlled by a control element of said device or by a removing device, actuates the movable part of said housing element during the removal process and/or sucks said fluid off the gap between said mold part ~~[(28)]~~ and said housing element ~~[(12)]~~.
9. (Currently Amended) The Device device according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~
claim 1,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the side of said mold part ~~[(28)]~~ which faces said housing element ~~[(26)]~~ has the shape of a cone, and that said housing element ~~[(26)]~~ is formed as complementary cone-shaped recess (inner cone).
10. (Currently Amended) The Device device according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~
claim 1,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein said housing element ~~[(12)]~~ is made of metal, in particular of aluminum.
11. (Currently Amended) The Device device according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~
claim 1,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein said mold part ~~[(28)]~~ is made of silicone.

12. (Currently Amended) The Device device according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein said mold part ~~[(28)]~~ comprises a flange ~~[(32)]~~ at its upper filling end, which is fixed in said housing element ~~[(12)]~~.

13. (Currently Amended) The Device device according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein said housing element ~~[(12)]~~ comprises a standardized adapter ~~[(16)]~~ to be housed in a traditional revolving-cycle lipstick pouring machine.

14. (Currently Amended) A Production production mold ~~[(10)]~~ for producing objects, for example lipsticks, that are molded from paste-like materials, in particular for a device ~~according to any of the preceding claims~~, comprising:

~~[-]~~ an elastic mold part ~~[(28)]~~ for housing the paste-like material,

~~[-]~~ a dimensionally stable housing element ~~[(12)]~~ for housing the elastic mold part ~~[(28)]~~, wherein said housing element is formed to be housed inside a stationary or moveable support of a production machine for objects made of paste-like materials,

~~[-]~~ wherein said mold part ~~[(28)]~~ is placed in a housing space of said housing element ~~[(12)]~~, and

~~[-]~~ wherein said housing space can be enlarged by moving a moveable, dimensionally stable part ~~[(26)]~~ of the housing element ~~[(12)]~~ for removing the object.

15. (Currently Amended) The Production production mold according to claim 1, wherein during the filling process a thin fluid layer is placed between said mold part ~~[(28)]~~ and said housing element ~~[(26)]~~, which is removable from the gap between said mold part and said housing element for the removal process.

16. (Currently Amended) The Production production mold according to ~~claims 14 or 15~~ claim 14, wherein a dimensionally stable, hollow-cylindrical filling element ~~[(40)]~~, for example made of metal, is provided, which can be placed onto said housing element ~~[(12)]~~, respectively onto said mold part ~~[(18)]~~, and the inner wall ~~[(50)]~~ of which forms the mold for an end section of said object.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~A Method~~ method for producing objects, for example lipsticks, that are molded from paste-like materials, while using an elastic mold part ~~[(28)]~~, into which the paste-like material is introduced, hardened, and from which the at least largely hardened object is removed while said mold part is elastically stretched, comprising the steps of:
~~characterized in that~~

~~[-]~~ said mold part ~~[(28)]~~ is placed in a housing space of a dimensionally stable housing element ~~[(12)]~~ during the filling and removal process in order to prevent/limit the stretching of said mold part, and that for stretching said mold part for the removal process said housing space is enlarged by moving a moveable, dimensionally stable part ~~[(26)]~~ of the housing element ~~[(12)]~~.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~The Method~~ method according to claim 17, wherein during the filling process a thin fluid layer is provided between said mold part and said housing element, having a maximum thickness of 5 mm, preferably of maximally 2 mm, said fluid layer is removed from the gap for the removal process in order to generate a vacuum acting upon the external wall of said mold part.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~The Method~~ method according to ~~claims 17 or 18~~ claim 17, wherein said mold part ~~[(28)]~~ at least predominantly abuts the housing element ~~[(26)]~~ during the filling process.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~A Device~~ device for producing objects, for example lipsticks, that are molded from paste-like materials, while using an elastic mold part ~~[(28)]~~, into which the paste-like material is introduced by means of a filling device, is hardened, and from which the at least largely hardened object is removed by a removing device while said mold part is elastically stretched, comprising:

~~characterized in that~~ a dimensionally stable housing element ~~[(12)]~~ is ~~provided~~ for housing said mold part, wherein said housing element is held inside a stationary or moveable support of said device,

~~[-]~~ wherein said mold part ~~[(28)]~~ is ~~placed~~ placeable in a housing space of said housing element at least during the filling and removal process, and

~~[-]~~ wherein during the filling process a thin fluid layer is placed between said mold part and said housing element, which is removable from said housing element for the removal process.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~The Device~~ device according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said fluid layer has a thickness of at most 5 mm, preferably at most 2 mm.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~The Device~~ device according to ~~any of claims 20 or 21~~ claim 20,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein between said mold part ~~[(28)]~~ and said movable release element ~~[(26)]~~ a closed gas, respectively fluid volume is arranged to form a thin fluid layer.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~The Device~~ device according to ~~any of claims 20 to 22~~ claim 20,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein an actuation element is provided which, controlled by a control element of said device or by a removing device, sucks said fluid off the gap between said mold part (28) and said housing element (12).

24. (Currently Amended) ~~The Device~~ device according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 20,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein the side of said mold part ~~[(28)]~~ which faces said housing element ~~[(26)]~~ has the shape of a cone, and that said housing element ~~[(26)]~~ is formed as complementary cone-shaped recess (inner cone).

25. (Currently Amended) ~~A Device~~ device according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 20,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein said housing element ~~[(12)]~~ is made of metal, in particular of aluminum.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~The Device~~ device according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 20,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein said mold part ~~[(28)]~~ is made of silicone.

27. (Currently Amended) ~~The Device~~ device according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 20,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein said mold part ~~[(28)]~~ comprises a flange ~~[(32)]~~ at its upper filling end, which is fixed in said housing element ~~[(12)]~~.

28. (Currently Amended) ~~The Device~~ device according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 20,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein said housing element ~~[(12)]~~ comprises a standardized adapter ~~[(16)]~~ to be housed in a traditional revolving-cycle lipstick pouring machine.

29. (Currently Amended) A ~~Production~~ production mold ~~[[(10)]]~~ for producing objects, for example lipsticks, that are molded from paste-like materials, ~~in particular for a device according to any of the preceding claims~~, comprising:

[[-]] an elastic mold part ~~[[(28)]]~~ for housing the paste-like material,

[[-]] a dimensionally stable housing element ~~[[(12)]]~~ for housing the elastic mold part ~~[[(28)]]~~, wherein said housing element is formed to be housed inside a stationary or moveable support of a production machine for objects made of paste-like materials,

[[-]] wherein said mold part ~~[[(28)]]~~ is placed in a housing space of said housing element ~~[[(12)]]~~, and

[[-]] wherein during the filling process a thin fluid layer is placed between said mold part ~~[[(28)]]~~ and said housing element ~~[[(26)]]~~, which is removable from the gap between said mold part and said housing element for the removal process.

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~Production~~ production mold according to claim 29, wherein a dimensionally stable, hollow-cylindrical filling element ~~[[(40)]]~~, for example made of metal, is provided, which can be placed onto said housing element ~~[[(12)]]~~, respectively onto said mold part ~~[[(18)]]~~, and the inner wall ~~[[(50)]]~~ of which forms the mold for an end section of said object.

31. (Currently Amended) A ~~Method~~ method for producing objects, for example lipsticks, that are molded from paste-like materials, while using an elastic mold part ~~[[(28)]]~~, into which the paste-like material is introduced, hardened, and from which the at least largely hardened object is removed while said mold part is elastically stretched, comprising the steps of:

~~characterized in that~~

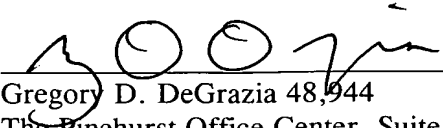
[[-]] placing said mold part ~~[[(28)]]~~ ~~is placed~~ in a housing space of a dimensionally stable housing element ~~[[(12)]]~~ during the filling and removal process in order to prevent/limit the stretching of said mold part, and that during the filling process a thin fluid layer is provided between said mold part and said housing element, having a maximum thickness of 5 mm, preferably of maximally 2 mm, said fluid layer is removed from the gap for the removal process in order to generate a vacuum acting upon the external wall of said mold part.

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 98-2789 for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayments regarding this Preliminary Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that the enclosed **Preliminary Amendment** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope as **AExpress Mail Post Office to Addressee,** Mailing Label No. EV 564946682 US and addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on **November 14, 2005.**



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